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C-NAVY-9-97-1050W

September 19, 1997

Project Number 7368

Mr. James Shafer
Remedial Project Manager
Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop 82
Lester, Pennsylvania 19113

Reference: CLEAN Contract No. N62472-90-D-1298
Contract Task Order No. 0268

Subject: RIDEM Site Inspection
Former Robert E. Derecktor Shipyard

Dear Mr. Shafer:

On September 17, 1997, the RIDEM performed a site inspection of the former Robert E. Derecktor Shipyard at NETC in Middletown Rhode Island. This inspection was held in accordance with agreements made during the conference call held on September 4 (refer to Brown & Root correspondence to you dated September 5, 1997 (number C-Navy-9-97-1042W)).

Participating in the site inspection were Kevin Coyle (NETC PWD), Paul Kulpa (RIDEM), and Stephen Parker and Joshua Holden (Brown and Root Environmental). This letter summarizes the discussions and the RIDEMs requests of the Navy.

- South Storage Area - The area on the south east corner of Building 234 was identified by Kevin Coyle as a plate steel storage area. Paul Kulpa requested that the contractor doing the soil removal work on the south waterfront install test trenches approximately 2 feet deep along the grassy area between the stack of concrete slabs currently present and the first catch basin to the north (identified as CB11-1 on Figure 4-4 of the SASE report. He requested that these trenches be installed to identify potential stained soils and "Rotoblast" grit which were noted in this area during in the PA report. He requested that they either remain open for his inspection or that the Navy thoroughly photodocument and videotape the trenching work.
- MW-09 - Reddish brown soils were present on the surface of the ground approximately 7 feet to the south of MW-09, near Building 234. Although a surface soil sample was collected at MW-09 as a part of the SASE, Mr. Kulpa felt that this sample did not represent the soils 7 feet to the south. Therefore, he requested a sample of these soils be analyzed for total metals at a minimum.



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- Sump S234-8 - Mr. Kulpa requested that the SASE report state that all the pipes leading to this sump were cleaned and no oil was present after cleaning. Mr. Parker indicated that such a statement would be inaccurate, since they were not all cleaned, they were only smoke tested to determine open pathways. Mr. Kulpa did agree that the sump was clear of oil now and did not appear to have any sheen present. He did ask for results from analysis of the material removed, and was directed to Appendix G of the SASE report.
- Mr. Kulpa inspected the west side of Building 234 for the presence of sandblast grit, and he agreed that there was no measurable quantity present.
- Mr. Kulpa inspected the south side of the road to Building A18 for the presence of sandblast grit, and although some residual grit is present on the slope, Mr. Kulpa agreed that the quantity was minimal.
- Mr. Kulpa inspected the bottoms of catch basins 10-1, 10-2 and agreed that they had consolidated bottoms.
- Building A18 - Mr. Kulpa attempted to inspect the boiler room of this building but was unable to due to the activity of the asbestos removal contractor working in that area. He wanted to dig into the soil under the former above ground tanks to determine depth of oil stains in this soil.
- Sump S42-5 - Mr. Kulpa requested that the septic vault at Building 42, known as S42-5, be drained, cleaned, and inspected thoroughly with video tape of the floors and ceilings, or that the perimeter be excavated to locate pipes leading away, and find where these pipes lead to.
- Mr. Kulpa requested that the Navy determine and disclose the historic fuel source for the heating plant at Building 42.
- Mr. Kulpa inspected a PVC pipe exiting the south wall of Building 42. This pipe was excavated with a shovel and found to connect to the bathroom plumbing from Building 42, which was previously found by smoke test to enter Sump S42-5.
- Staining on the south side of Building 42 - Mr. Kulpa inspected this area and it was determined to be originating from the copper flashing on the roof.
- Former Disposal Pits - Mr. Kulpa stated that he felt that MW-05 and TP25 were incorrectly located to find contaminants associated with the former bilge water disposal pits. He requested that the Navy check air photos again and install additional test pits to investigate these former pits.



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- West side of Building 42 - Mr. Kulpa inspected this area for the presence of sandblast grit. He agreed that none was apparently present, and that the original grade from construction of the seawall was equivalent to the current grade. However, he stated that he would check on records of dumping sandblast grit in this area.
- Dry well at Huts 1 & 2 - Mr. Kulpa stated that the RIDEM UIC group was disappointed that no sample was collected from the bottom of this well. Mr. Holden explained that there appears to be paving stones or other bottom material that prevented the use of hand tools, and the construction of the well did not allow safe use of hydraulic machinery. Mr. Kulpa stated that the UIC representative would attempt to sample this location. In addition, there were two pipes leading into this well, and the origin of both needed to be identified. Mr. Holden explained that smoke tests indicated that they were from the lavatory and the roof drains in Huts 1&2, but this should be evident in the report.
- Building 68 - Mr. Kulpa found condensate drains behind the building and asked that the Navy identify the out-falls of these drains.
- Transformer pad south of Pier 1 - Mr. Kulpa stated that it appeared that there was an old stain on the north side of the pad, and requested that a soil sample for PCBs be taken from this area.
- Mr. Kulpa inspected the Building 54 substation 16, requested that PCB samples be collected in this area. He also requested that the Navy determine if the material around the pad is asphalt or soil.
- North Hazardous Waste Storage Area - Test pit 22 is proximal to an area where soil was recommended for removal due to staining and previous sampling described in Appendix I of the PA report. Mr. Kulpa felt that since there is no record of soil removal actually occurring, soil samples should be taken in this area. He felt that test pit 22 did not represent the soils in the area where the removal action was supposed to have taken place. He did state that the borings at the fenced hazardous waste storage area were well placed.
- AST Locations at Huts 1 & 2 - Sample stations were well placed and Mr. Kulpa had no comments for further investigations at this area.

Mr. Kulpa left the site at 1830 hours in order to attend the September RAB meeting. He indicated that he would have to complete the inspection at another time.



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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Stephen S. Parker
Project Manager

SSP/rt

attachment

c: T. Bober, Northdiv
B. Wheeler, NETC Newport
J. Trepanowski/G. Glenn, B&RE
File 7368-3.2